

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:363
ANSWERED ON:28.02.2008
NEW CATERING POLICY
Baxla Shri Joachim

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways have formulated a new catering policy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of new agencies to which catering contracts have been awarded during the last three years, year-wise, together with the terms of the contracts and the procedure to be followed in this regard;
- (d) the number of new catering stalls allotted during the last three years and the train numbers in which they are excepted to be provided, zone-wise; and
- (e) the steps taken to keep the prices of food items reasonable?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS(SHRI R. VELU)

- (a) & (b): Railways' catering policy was last revised in December 2005. Thereafter, no new catering policy has been issued.
- (c) & (d): Information is being obtained from Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) and Zonal Railways and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.
- (e): Prices of standard meals, tea/coffee and breakfast are fixed by Railway Board taking into account the cost of raw materials, fuel, staff cost, packaging etc. Menu and tariff of a-la- carte food items are decided by IRCTC and Zonal Railways in a similar fashion. These prices are considered reasonable. Regular watch is kept to ensure that the catering licensees do not overcharge the passengers while selling standard and a-la-carte food items at stations and on trains. Action is taken against licensees overcharging railway passengers.